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天井の下

南Q太

Q-ta Minami Presents TENJYO NO SHITA

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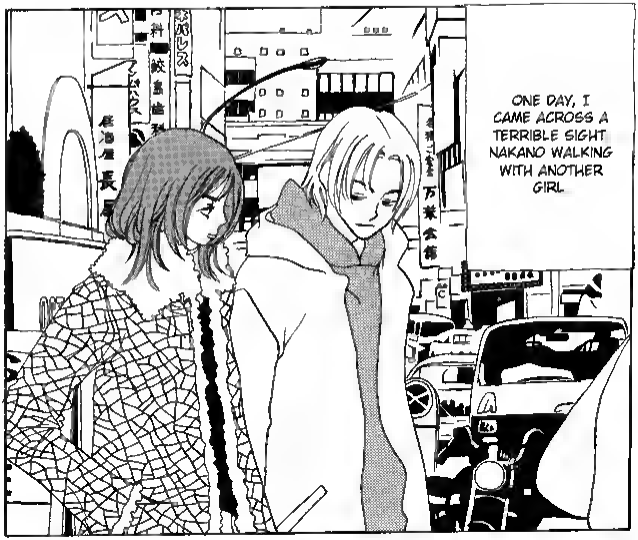
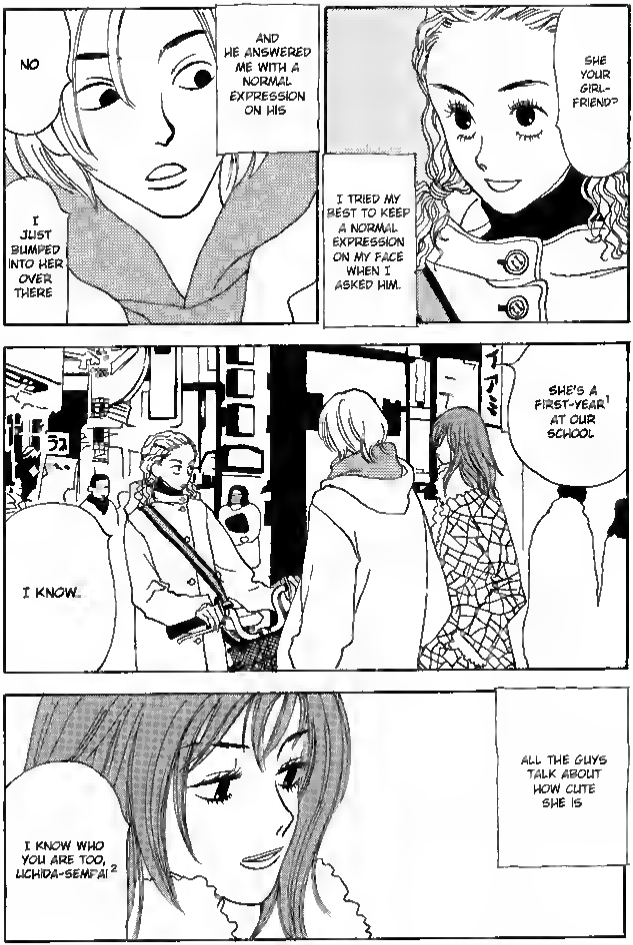
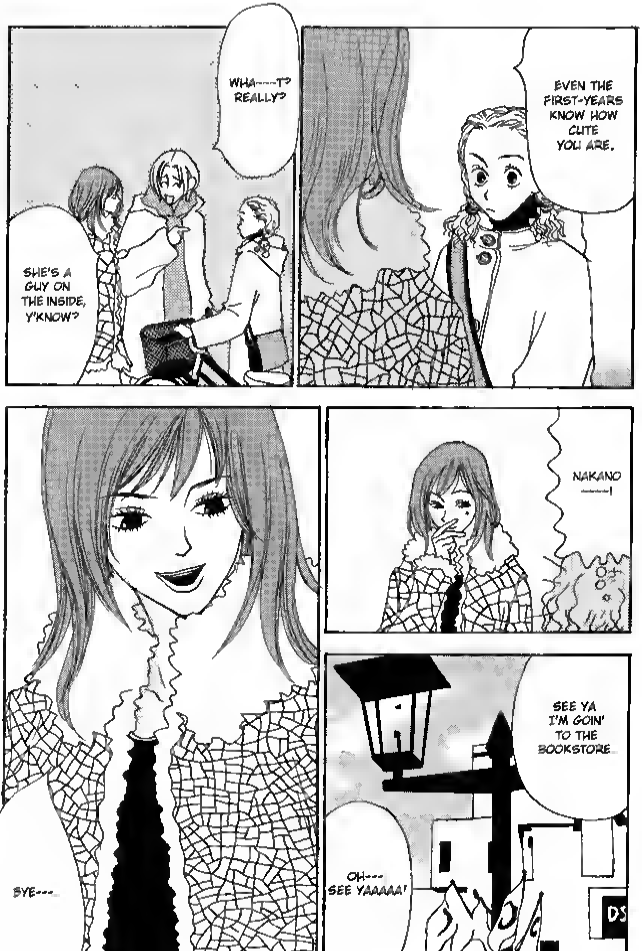
UNDER THE CEILING 4


ONE DAY, I CAME ACROSS A TERRIBLE SIGHT. NAKANO WALKING WITH ANOTHER GIRL.

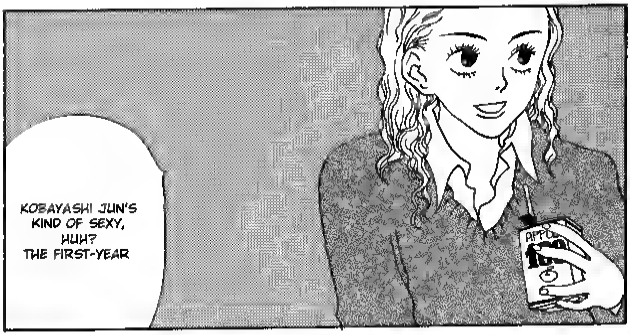
SHE WAS TALLER AND MORE MATURE-LOOKING THAN ME. I INSTANTLY DISLIKED HER.

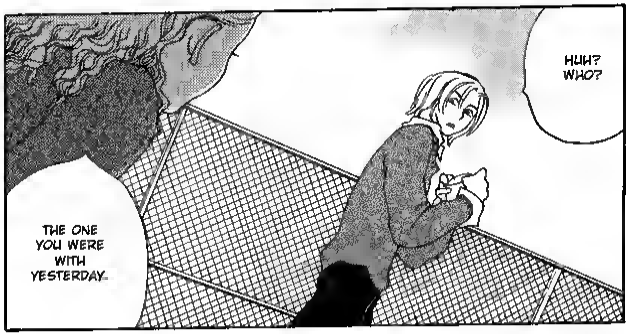


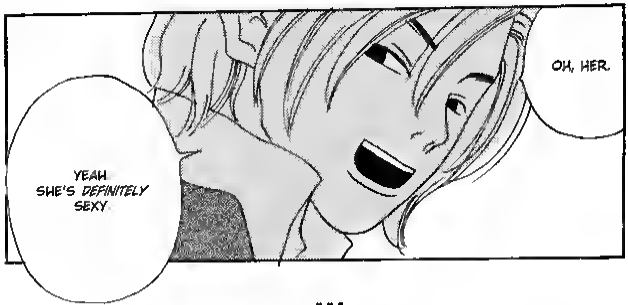
TRANSLATOR'S NOTE | 1 10TH GRADE IN THE US
2 UPPERCLASSMAN

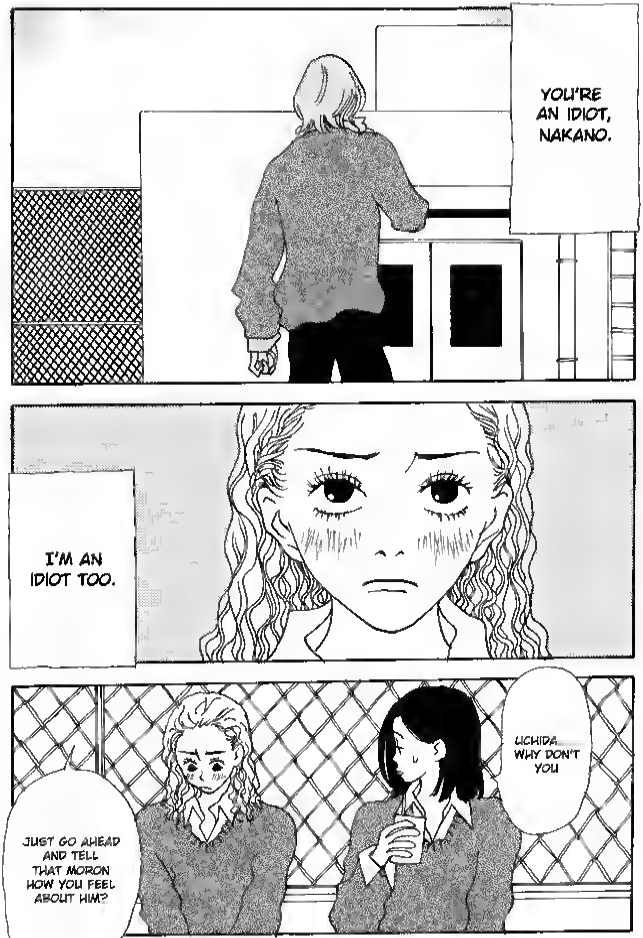

WHA----T? REALLY?
SHE'S A GUY ON THE INSIDE, Y'KNOW?
EVEN THE FIRST-YEARS KNOW HOW CUTE YOU ARE.
NAKANO ----!
SEE YA I'M GOIN' TO THE BOOKSTORE.
OH--- SEE YAAAAA!
SYE---

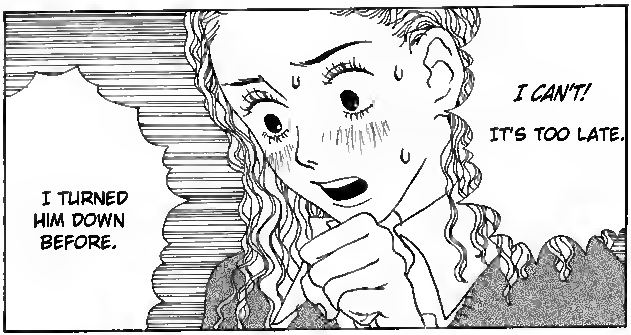
SOMEONE SHARE THEIR LUNCH WITH MEEEE!
YAAAY! THANKS, UCHIDA
I BOUGHT TOO MANY CDS THIS MONTH.
CURRY
ACK! IT'S A BEGGAR
UCHIDA-CHAAAN! THAT CURRY BREAD LOOKS GOOD

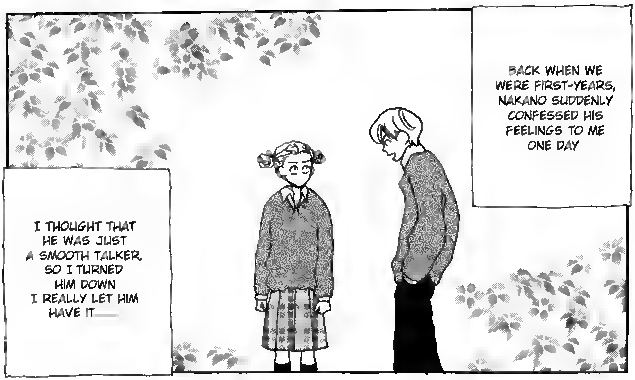

KOBAYASHI JUN'S KIND OF SEXY, HUH? THE FIRST-YEAR

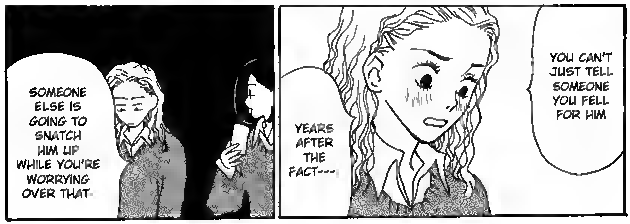

HUH? WHO?
THE ONE YOU WERE WITH YESTERDAY.

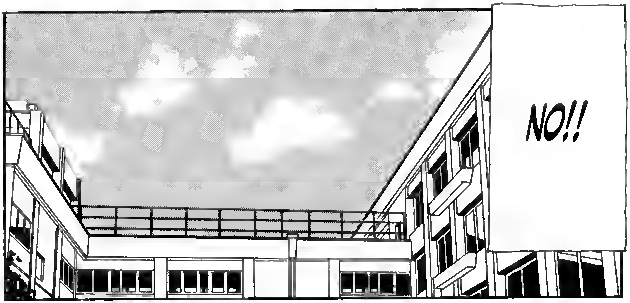

OH, HER.
YEAH. SHE'S *DEFINITELY* SEXY.


YOU'RE AN IDIOT, NAKANO.
I'M AN IDIOT TOO.
UCHIDA... WHY DON'T YOU
JUST GO AHEAD AND TELL THAT MORON HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT HIM?

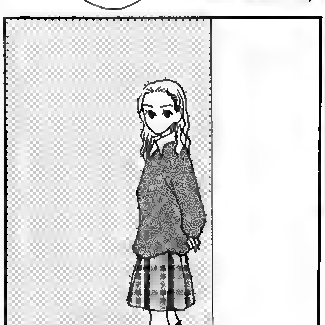

I TURNED HIM DOWN BEFORE.
I CAN'T!
IT'S TOO LATE.


BACK WHEN WE WERE FIRST-YEARS, NAKANO SUDDENLY CONFESSED HIS FEELINGS TO ME ONE DAY
I THOUGHT THAT HE WAS JUST A SMOOTH TALKER, SO I TURNED HIM DOWN I REALLY LET HIM HAVE IT——

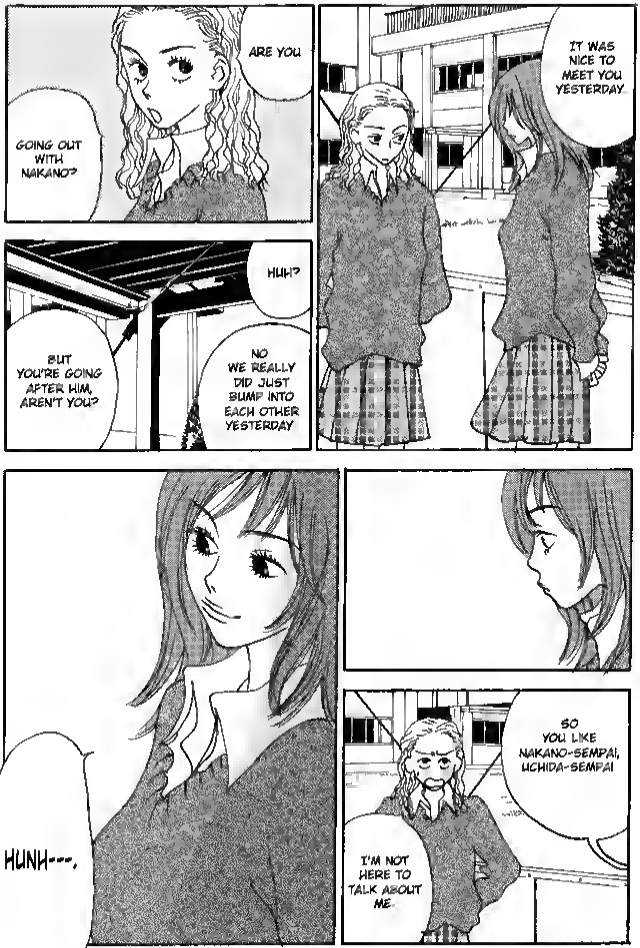

SOMEONE ELSE IS GOING TO SNATCH HIM UP WHILE YOU'RE WORRYING OVER THAT-
YEARS AFTER THE FACT---
YOU CAN'T JUST TELL SOMEONE YOU FELL FOR HIM

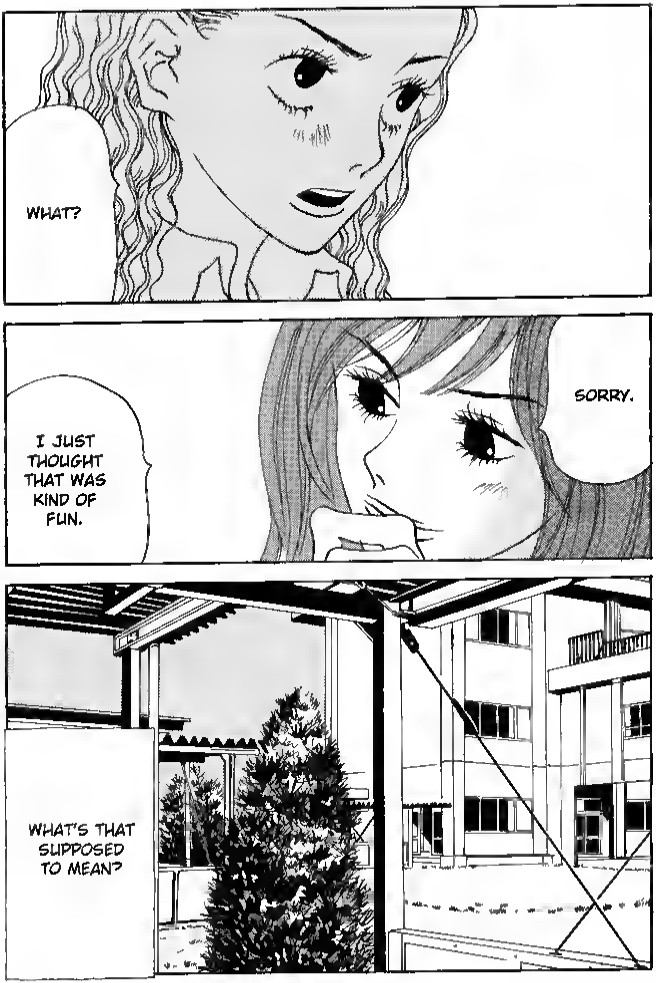

NO!!

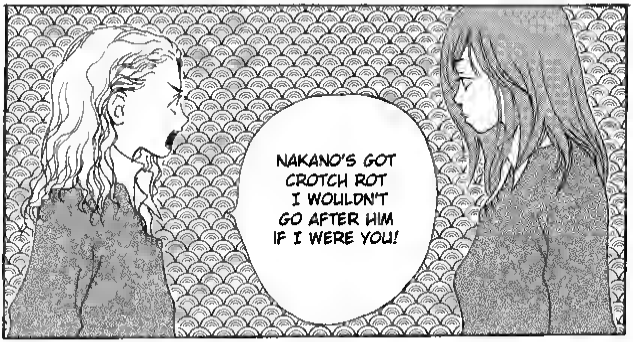
KOBAYASHI-SAN

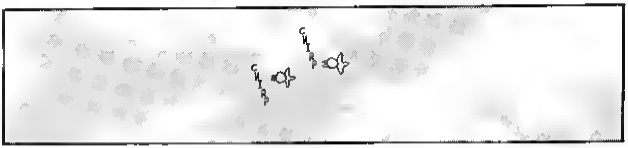


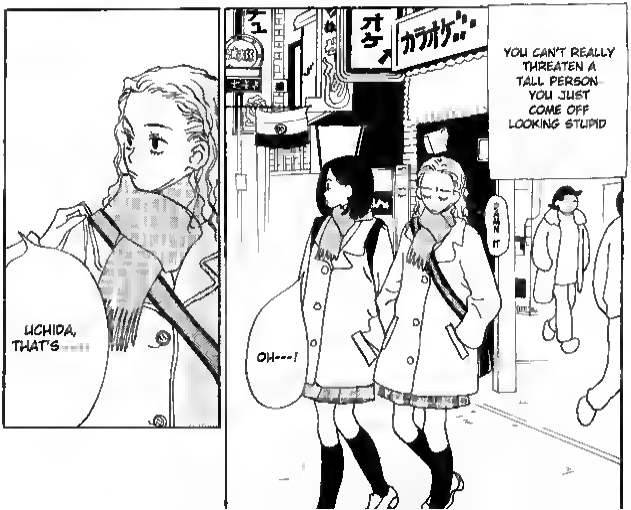
UCHIDA-SEMPAI FROM THIRD YEAR IS ASKING FOR YOU


ARE YOU
GOING OUT WITH NAKANO?
IT WAS NICE TO MEET YOU YESTERDAY
HUH?
NO WE REALLY DID JUST BUMP INTO EACH OTHER YESTERDAY
BUT YOU'RE GOING AFTER HIM, AREN'T YOU?
HUNH---,
SO YOU LIKE NAKANO-SEMPAI, UCHIDA-SEMPAI
I'M NOT HERE TO TALK ABOUT ME.

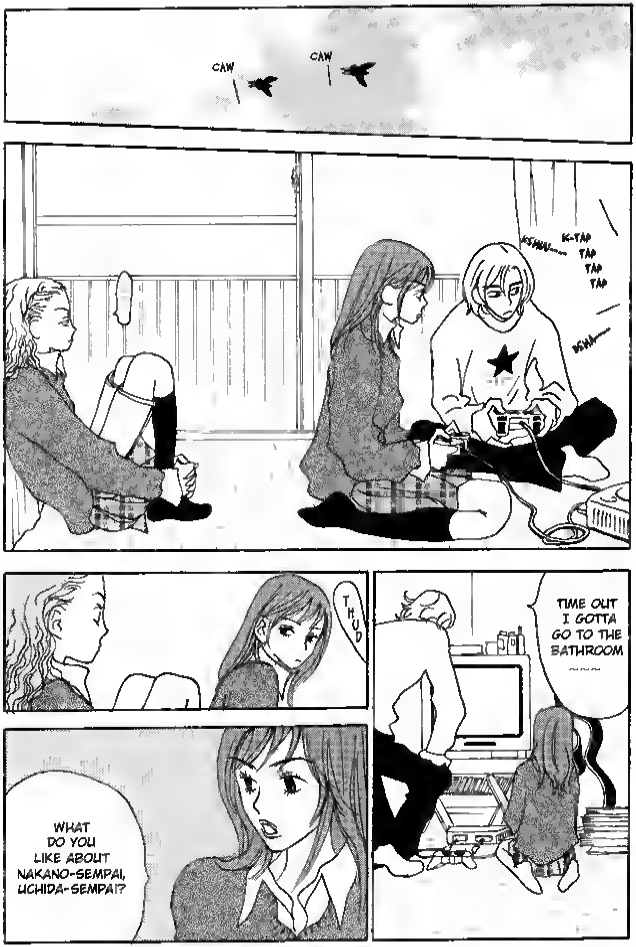

WHAT?
SORRY.
I JUST THOUGHT THAT WAS KIND OF FUN.
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

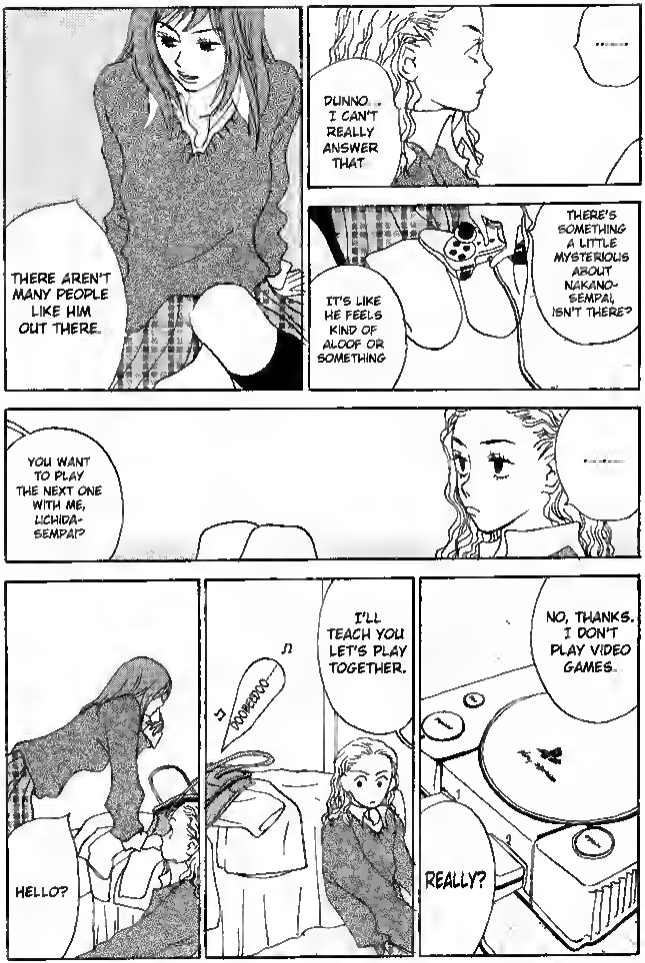

NAKANO'S GOT CROTCH ROT I WOULDN'T GO AFTER HIM IF I WERE YOU!

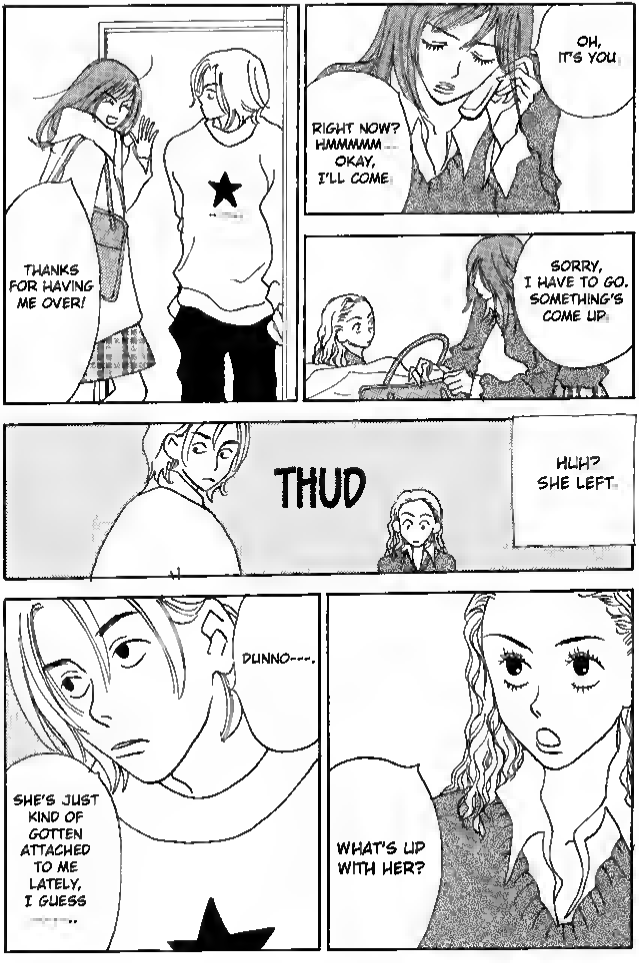



UCHIDA, THAT'S.....
OH---!
カラオケ
YOU CAN'T REALLY THREATEN A TALL PERSON YOU JUST COME OFF LOOKING STUPID
SHH!

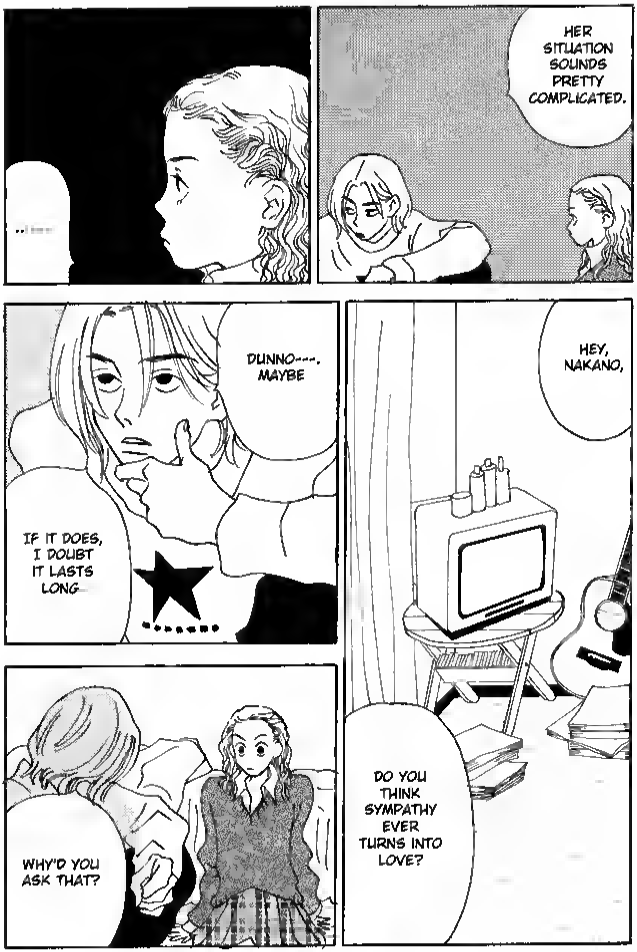
THEY'RE WALKING HOME TOGETHER? WHY?
GOOD TO SEE YOU, UCHIDA-SEMPAI!
I'M GOING OVER TO NAKANO-SEMPAI'S HOUSE NOW. WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME TOO?
YES, I'LL COME.


CAW
CAW
K-TAP TAP TAP TAP
TAP
THUD
TIME OUT I GOTTA GO TO THE BATHROOM ~~~
WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT NAKANO-SEMPAI, UCHIDA-SEMPAI?

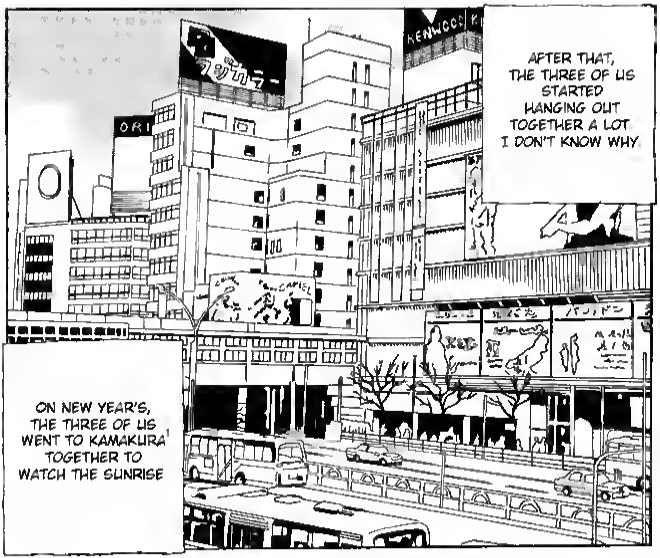

THERE AREN'T MANY PEOPLE LIKE HIM OUT THERE.
DUNNO... I CAN'T REALLY ANSWER THAT.
.....
IT'S LIKE HE FEELS KIND OF ALOOF OR SOMETHING
THERE'S SOMETHING A LITTLE MYSTERIOUS ABOUT NAKANO-SEMPAI, ISN'T THERE?
YOU WANT TO PLAY THE NEXT ONE WITH ME, UCHIDA-SEMPAI?
.....
HELLO?
♫ DOOPEDOO- ♫
I'LL TEACH YOU LET'S PLAY TOGETHER.
REALLY?
NO, THANKS. I DON'T PLAY VIDEO GAMES.

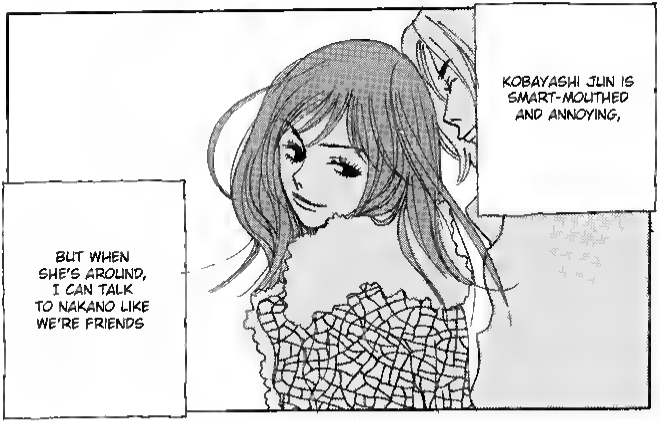

THANKS FOR HAVING ME OVER!
OH, IT'S YOU.
RIGHT NOW? HMMMMM... OKAY, I'LL COME.
SORRY, I HAVE TO GO. SOMETHING'S COME UP.
THUD
HUH? SHE LEFT.
DUNNO---.
SHE'S JUST KIND OF GOTTEN ATTACHED TO ME LATELY, I GUESS.....
WHAT'S UP WITH HER?

WHAT SHOULD I DO? THE TWO OF US ARE ALONE TOGETHER NOW
HUNH
THAT WAS A GUY WHO JUST CALLED, RIGHT?
SHE FOOLS AROUND A LOT
BADUM
BADUM
SHE TOLD ME THAT HER DAD'S BEEN IN THE HOSPITAL FOR A WHILE,
AND SHE DOESN'T GET ALONG WITH HER STEPMOM.

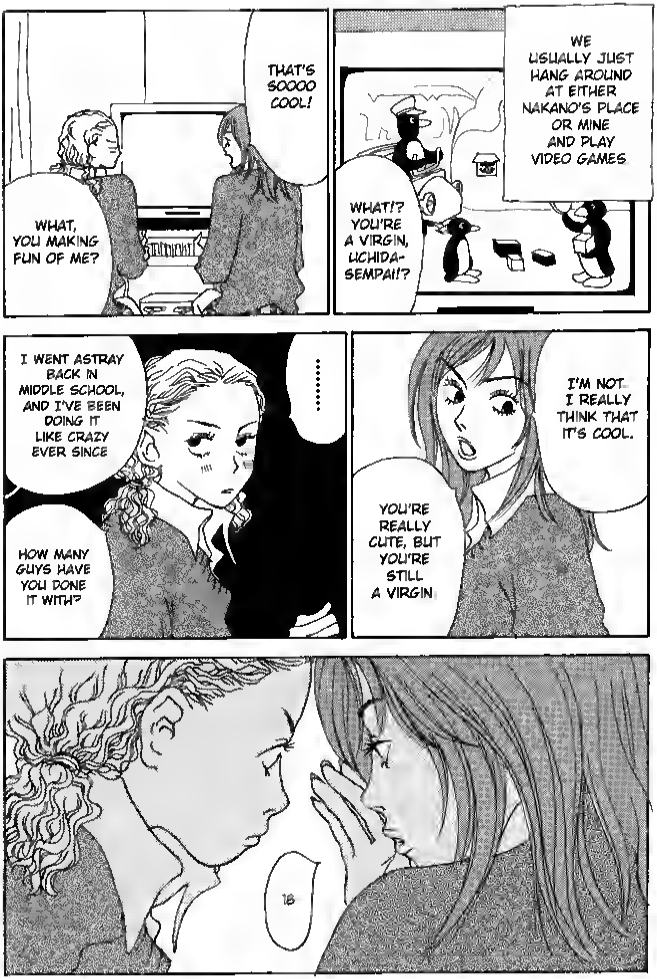

...
HER SITUATION SOUNDS PRETTY COMPLICATED.
DUNNO----. MAYBE
IF IT DOES, I DOUBT IT LASTS LONG
HEY, NAKANO,
DO YOU THINK SYMPATHY EVER TURNS INTO LOVE?
WHY'D YOU ASK THAT?

YOU MORON!
DON'T FLATTER YOURSELF, YOU STUPID APE!
YOU JEALOUS OR SOMETHIN'?
sigh
I DON'T HAVE CROTCH ROT, Y'KNOW.
I COULDN'T TELL HIM. AGAIN





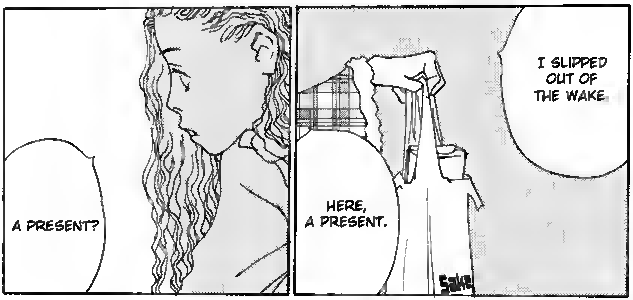
TRANSLATOR'S NOTE - 1 A CITY LOCATED A LITTLE TO THE SOUTHWEST OF TOKYO


THAT'S SOOOO COOL!
WHAT, YOU MAKING FUN OF ME?
WE USUALLY JUST HANG AROUND AT EITHER NAKANO'S PLACE OR MINE AND PLAY VIDEO GAMES.
WHAT!? YOU'RE A VIRGIN, UCHIDA-SEMPAI!?
I'M NOT. I REALLY THINK THAT IT'S COOL.
YOU'RE REALLY CUTE, BUT YOU'RE STILL A VIRGIN.
.....
I WENT ASTRAY BACK IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, AND I'VE BEEN DOING IT LIKE CRAZY EVER SINCE
HOW MANY GUYS HAVE YOU DONE IT WITH?
18

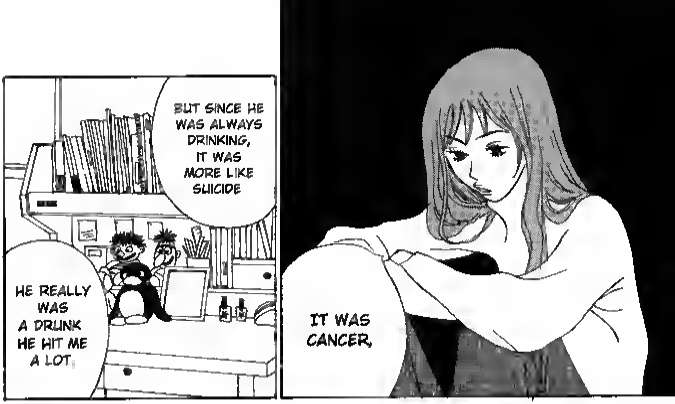
SOMETIMES KOBAYASHI JUN'S CELL RINGS
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!!
YOU SUCK ---!!
APPARENTLY, SHE HAS A BUNCH OF BOYFRIENDS. SHE TOLD ME THAT THERE ARE A COUPLE OF THEM SHE SLEEPS WITH SOMETIMES.
WHEN SOMEONE INVITES HER OUT, SHE ALWAYS LEAVES RIGHT AWAY.
I THOUGHT SHE REALLY LIKED HIM.
EVEN THOUGH SHE'S KIND OF A SLUT, SHE'S NEVER LAID A FINGER ON NAKANO I DON'T KNOW WHY.

THREE MONTHS LATER, NAKANO AND I WENT OFF TO SEPARATE COLLEGES, LEAVING KOBAYASHI JUN BEHIND.
WE ALL LOST TOUCH WITH EACH OTHER, AND STOPPED HANGING OUT TOGETHER.

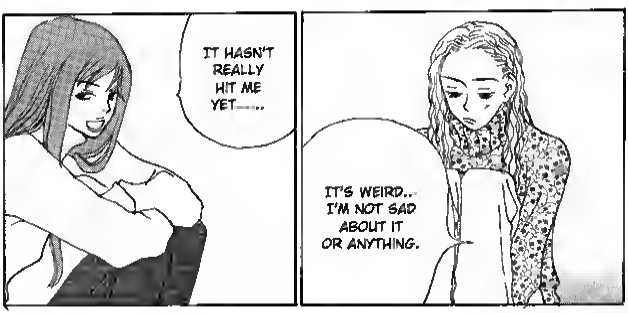
ONE NIGHT IN FEBRUARY, KOBAYASHI JUN SUDDENLY SHOWED UP AT MY DOOR.
MY FATHER DIED THIS MORNING, SEMPAI.

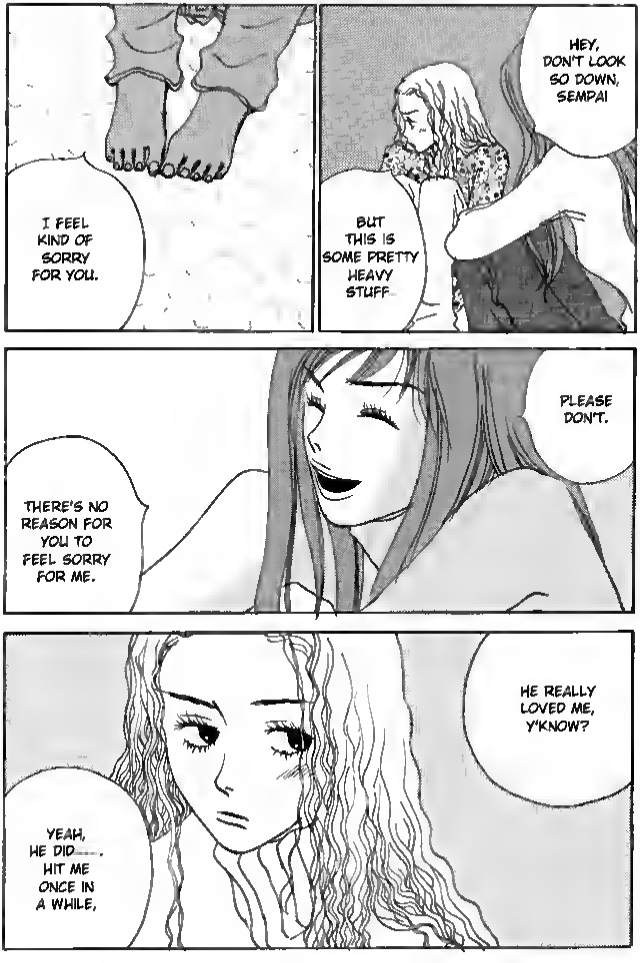

I SLIPPED OUT OF THE WAKE.
HERE, A PRESENT.
A PRESENT?

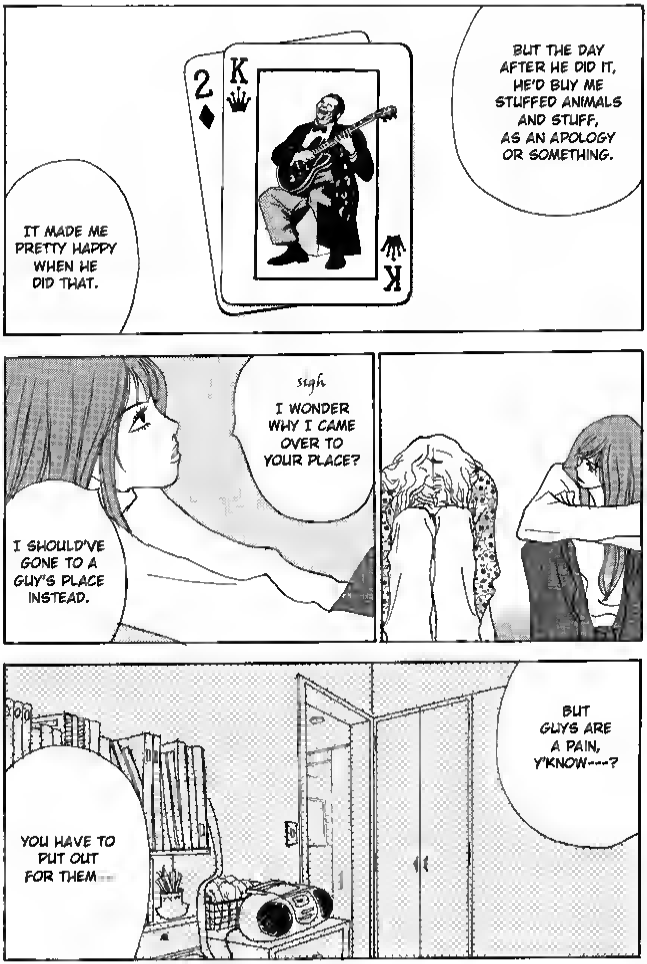
EHEHE-HEHE

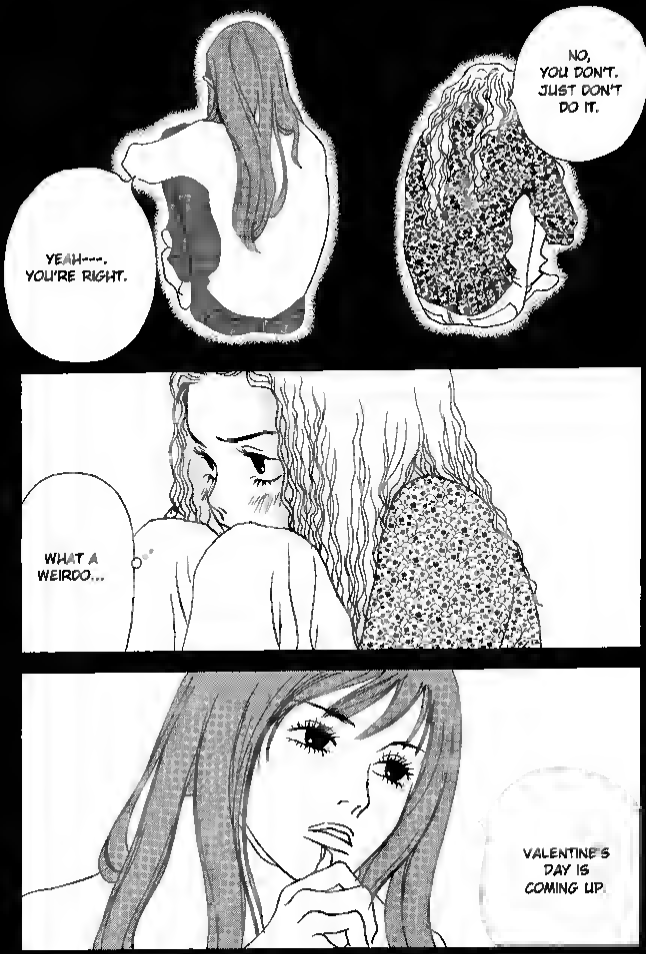

IT WAS CANCER.
BUT SINCE HE WAS ALWAYS DRINKING, IT WAS MORE LIKE SUICIDE
HE REALLY WAS A DRUNK HE HIT ME A LOT.

HE WAS A REAL SKIRT-CHASER, TOO. MY MOM LEFT HIM.
I GUESS I TAKE AFTER HIM IN THAT AREA.


IT HASN'T REALLY HIT ME YET——..
IT'S WEIRD.. I'M NOT SAD ABOUT IT OR ANYTHING.


I FEEL KIND OF SORRY FOR YOU.
BUT THIS IS SOME PRETTY HEAVY STUFF...
HEY, DON'T LOOK SO DOWN, SEMPAI
PLEASE DON'T.
THERE'S NO REASON FOR YOU TO FEEL SORRY FOR ME.
HE REALLY LOVED ME, Y'KNOW?
YEAH, HE DID... HIT ME ONCE IN A WHILE,


IT MADE ME PRETTY HAPPY WHEN HE DID THAT.
BUT THE DAY AFTER HE DID IT, HE'D BUY ME STUFFED ANIMALS AND STUFF, AS AN APOLOGY OR SOMETHING.
2
K
K
I SHOULD'VE GONE TO A GUY'S PLACE INSTEAD.
sigh
I WONDER WHY I CAME OVER TO YOUR PLACE?
YOU HAVE TO PUT OUT FOR THEM---
BUT GUYS ARE A PAIN, Y'KNOW----?

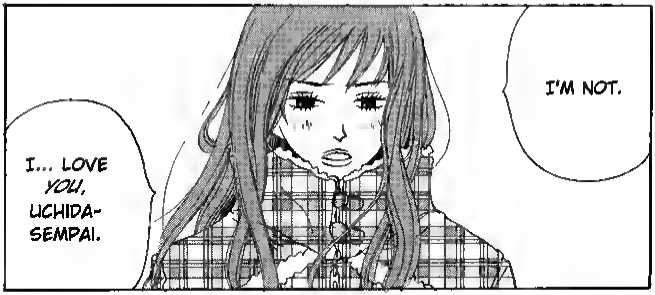

NO, YOU DON'T. JUST DON'T DO IT.
YEAH---. YOU'RE RIGHT.
WHAT A WEIRDO...
VALENTINE'S DAY IS COMING UP.

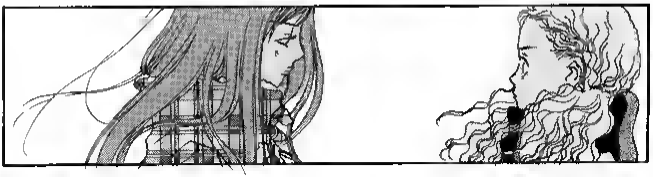
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
YOU SHOULD GIVE NAKANO-SEMPAI CHOCOLATE, SEMPAI.
ON SUNDAY,
I WENT TO MEET NAKANO, CHOCOLATE IN HAND.

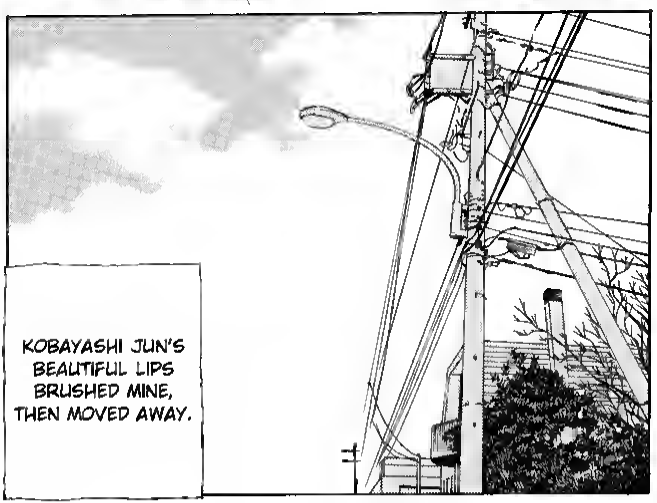
I'M IN LOVE WITH KOBAYASHI NOW.....
AND SUFFERED AN HONORABLE DEFEAT.
I ASKED HIM OUT
SORRY.
ACTUALLY, I WAS KIND OF RELIEVED AFTERWARDS IT WAS WEIRD
AND THEN I THOUGHT ABOUT KOBAYASHI JUN.

UCHIDA-SEMPAI
NAKANO-SEMPAI ASKED ME TO GO OUT WITH HIM.

BUT I TURNED HIM DOWN.
.....
YOU IDIOT!
YOU FELT SORRY FOR ME BECAUSE HE TURNED ME DOWN, DIDN'T YOU!?
DON'T INSULT ME LIKE THAT---!


I'M NOT.
I... LOVE YOU, UCHIDA-SEMPAI.




KOBAYASHI JUN'S BEAUTIFUL LIPS BRUSHED MINE, THEN MOVED AWAY.

END

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